

Commissioner of Political Practices Program Goals

Agency/Program #: 3202-01-G2

Division:

Program: Administration

Agency Name:	Commissioner of Political Practices	
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Program or Project Description:

This project involves providing an electronic filing system and additional resources on the web for political campaigns in order to simplify reporting, reduce campaign reporting errors, enhance public disclosure, and improve compliance with the law.

Appropriation, Expenditure and Source

Fund Name:	2008		2009		Approp & Expenditure numbers are as of April 15, 2008
	Approp.	Expended	Approp.	Expended	
General Fund	108,338	42,010	12,000		
State Special					
Federal Funds					
Total:	\$0	\$42,010	\$12,000	\$0	

Legislative Goal(s):

Facilitate accurate and timely filing of the required campaign finance reports.

Legislative Performance Measures:

Reduce filing errors by 25 percent by December 2008. Point those with questions to the website and maintain timely and topical information so that fewer than 25 percent of callers call back with more questions.

2009 Biennium Significant Milestones:

Completion Dates

Target

Actual

1	Testing for candidate registration and reporting is underway.	12/21/2007	Registration -- 12/7/2007
2	Launch of candidate registration and reporting is planned for early in the new year.	1/10/2008	Registration -- 12/12/2007
3	Development of committee registration is underway with launch planned for March '08	3/15/2008	
4	Testing continues for both committee and candidate reporting. Services will be launched as soon as they're ready	5/13/2008	
5	The degree of success in meeting our goal will be evident following reporting on the Nov '08 election.	12/23/2008	

Remake the CPP website; provide more information and an enhanced 'search' function.	12/15/2008	
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Agency Performance Report:

The candidate registration service was launched on schedule in December. Nearly 25 percent of 753 candidates required to register used the new system. For those using the system, errors are resolved during the process of submitting the form.

About half of those who didn't use the online service used the "fillable" forms from our website. Even though the content of these forms still has to be manually entered by staff into our database, the registration form that's generated is easier to read than the handwritten forms we often receive. So there's an ease-of-use benefit to candidates as well as our data entry staff. This will reduce data errors as well, and speed data entry.

On the other hand, candidate financial reporting services have been delayed and our target dates weren't met. Because of database problems discovered in the test phase, the financial reporting service is delayed.

Testing resumed in mid-April, but we're still having to order database changes to accomodate the new web-based front-end of the service.

We hope to launch both the candidate financial reporting and the committee (PAC) registration and reporting services in mid-to late-May -- in time for some of the smaller campaigns to use the services prior to the primary election. However, each passing day with database problems makes this more unlikely. More likely is that the services will be available for post-primary reports beginning in mid-June.

A "make-over of the CPP website is scheduled to be completed May 5th. It's intended to make an easier to navigate site and to highlight the most commonly sought information. It will also include an enhanced search function.

Content on the site is being frequently updated with Q & A style handouts, reporting calendars, rules notices and other sought-after information. Help Desk staff regularly refers callers to information on the web.

LFD Narrative:

LFD ASSESSMENT: Warning

DATA RELEVANCE: The information reported in the Agency Performance section relates to the legislative goals and performance measures.

APPROPRIATION STATUS: Appropriation and expenditure data were provided, expenditures appear to be in line with estimated costs

COMMENTS/ISSUES The initial launch date of March 15, 2008 was not meet due to the problems with the website described by the COPP. The workgroup may wish to review this again in October 2008 to determine progress during the last 6 months and to determine if candidates will be able to file campaign reports online for the general election.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Dismiss from further review
- 2) Review again in October 2008
- 3) Request additional information
- 4) Upgrade or downgrade the rating



Version	Date	Author

Change Description